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INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Turkey

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SUBJECT Repercussions of Anti-Turkish
Editorials in Athens Newspapers

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SUPPLEMENT 3

1. A Turkish-Greek incident has occurred as a result of anti-Turkish publications in Athens by Greek newspaper men who recently returned from a visit to Istanbul. The Greek journalists, more especially Mr. Ekonomidis, editor of Ethnos, published a series of editorials stressing the unsatisfactory situation of the Greek minority in Istanbul.
2. These publications have caused a most unfavorable impression in Turkish circles, particularly in view of the elaborate reception given the visiting Greek journalists. The Turkish Government has so far prevented the Turkish press from replying, but the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hasan Saka, called the incident to the attention of Pericles Skeferis, the Greek Ambassador to Ankara. Sedat Semavi, President of the Istanbul Press Association, who had personally welcomed the Greek journalists, filed an official complaint with Anghelos S. Vlachos, the Press Attaché of the Istanbul Greek Consulate General. Semavi also indicated that he, too, had personally urged the Turkish editors to refrain from commenting on the Greek editorials.
3. Mr. Stefan Stefanopoulos, Minister of Foreign Affairs in Athens, was anxious to correct the bad impression created by these Greek editorials, and urged the Athens correspondents of the Gumhuriyet and Tasvir to attach no importance to the editorials which certainly did not express the viewpoint of the Greek Government. On the contrary, Mr. Stefanopoulos implied that his government was very anxious to consolidate the good relations existing between the two countries with a defense alliance, which would be a stronger tie than the Entente Cordiale signed in Ankara on 13 September 1933.

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